

Literacy B.C. NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1992

Volume 2 Number 1

A CALL TO ACTION!

It's almost election time again for Literacy B.C.'s Board of Directors.

We would like you to send us names of people you would like to nominate for the 1992-1993 elections. The following positions on the Board of Directors are available:

A Regional Representative for each of the following:

Capilano
Malaspina

Cariboo
Northern Lights

Douglas
Okanagan

Fraser Valley
Vancouver

..... and 4 Member at Large positions.

All positions are for a two year term.

The Literacy B.C. Board of Directors meets 4 times each year, usually in Vancouver. All expenses for attending meetings are paid by Literacy B.C.

Board members are expected to attend all Board meetings and to be involved in the work of Literacy B.C. on committees and in their communities.

HOW THE ELECTIONS WORK:

Elections will be by mail. The Regional Representative election will be held first. Ballots for Regional Representative voting will be mailed by May 8, 1992 and must be returned by May 29, 1992.

Literacy B.C. members who live in each region will vote for their Regional Representative.

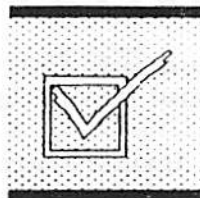
Ballots for the Member at Large election will be mailed by June 8, 1992 and must be returned by June 26, 1992. People can have their names on both ballots if they wish.

Literacy B.C. wants to have a Board of Directors that includes learners, people from colleges, school districts and community-based programs, libraries, business, labour and other interest groups.

Please help us to have a strong organization.....send your enclosed nomination form by:

MAY 1, 1992

**If you want more information,
call 687-5077, or fax 687-5076.**



NEWS FROM LITERACY B.C.

Training Workshops For Volunteer Tutor Program Planners, Trainers And Coordinators

Literacy B.C. is committed to promoting good practice in literacy programs in B.C., particularly programs using volunteers.

The plan is to have 3 or 4 regional workshops each year which will give training to **VOLUNTEER TUTOR PROGRAM PLANNERS, TRAINERS AND COORDINATORS.**

The purpose of these workshops is to:

- * enhance the delivery of programs using volunteers by providing professional development training.
- * to encourage good practice in literacy programs using volunteers
- * to provide opportunities to network regionally and provincially.
- * to encourage and develop communication of education ideas and resources.
- * to develop a bank of resource persons and materials.

AN INVITATION TO RESOURCE PERSONS....

We need to develop a bank of resource persons who are willing to share their expertise and knowledge with others in the field.

Interested trainers/presenters are invited and encouraged to call the Literacy B.C. office at 687-5077 for an application form.

Deadline for applications is May 1, 1992.

Some of the guidelines for workshop presenters/trainers include:

- * be familiar with and agree to the Literacy B.C. policy statements related to good practice and principles of tutor training.
- * presenters/trainers will be asked to provide a pre-workshop outline and post workshop evaluation.
- * All applications will be subject to a review process.
- * a \$350.00 honourarium will be available which includes preparation time, travel time and Literacy B.C. will cover all travel, accommodation and meal expenses required.

It is important that the work done in these workshops become part of a pool of knowledge that is available to everyone. The information gathered from workshop outlines, workshop evaluations, and the Trainer Applications will become a pool of information that will be made available, through the Literacy B.C. office.

NEWS FROM LITERACY B.C.

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

Dear Literacy B.C. Member,

Just a brief note to remind you that it is time to renew your membership.

It's been a very busy and exciting year! Did you know that at this time last year, we had less than 75 members. Today, there are more than 400 Literacy B.C. members!

Your continued support is very important to us!

Please fill in the enclosed form and renew your membership today.

Help us to keep building a strong network for literacy in B.C.!

A REMINDER:

Elections for the Literacy B.C. Board of Directors will be held during May and June. In order to receive ballots for voting, you must be a member by May 8, 1992. (We've added an extra membership form in case you have a friend who like to join).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT.

GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS!

A company called MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC OF CANADA is celebrating its 25th anniversary in Canada. To honour this anniversary they are donating 200 TV/VCR units worth a total of \$170,000 to literacy organizations across Canada!

There are 20 units for distribution in B.C. This wonderful donation will really help groups who are teaching adult literacy, training tutors and raising public awareness.

ABC Canada is managing this program on behalf of Matsushita.

THE RULES ARE:

- * Groups who apply must be a community-based organization. (Institutions like colleges, school districts and unions are not eligible).
- * Organizations must have been working for two years.
- * Organizations will have to fill out an application form, and say how they will use this equipment. ABC Canada and Literacy B.C. will review all applications.
- * Organizations that receive a TV/VCR unit will be asked to write a brief report after one year.

Please call 687-5077 (or fax 687-5076) if you want an application form.

ABC CANADA

A national private-sector foundation promoting literacy



the news from across BC

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

* LITERACY NANAIMO!

They are celebrating their first year in the Downtown office. This has been a very busy group and they have a lot to be proud of!

* MARDI JOYCE!

Mardi is a founding Board member of Literacy B.C. In February Mardi was elected as Member at Large for the MOVEMENT FOR CANADIAN LITERACY Board of Directors (MCL). We look forward to Mardi's news from this national literacy organization.

* PROJECT LITERACY PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM

They have received a grant from Employment and Immigration Canada under Section 25. This grant has made it possible to re-open THE WRITE PLACE until December '92! The group is continuing to work on finding stable funding. MORE GOOD NEWS! Malaspina College will provide a 1/2 time volunteer tutor program coordinator who will work with THE WRITE PLACE tutor program.

* PROJECT LITERACY HOUSTON!

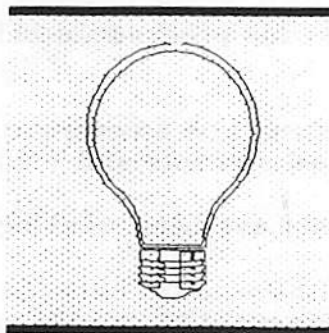
THE NEXT STEP: A Northern Conference on Literacy, held in Houston March 26-28 was a huge success with over 120 people attending. Well done!

YOU SHOULD KNOW.....

Literacy B.C. has conducted a survey of adult literacy programs in B.C. currently using volunteer tutors.

The information was collected from community colleges, school districts, community organizations and the prison system. The numbers are based on a current count, not an accumulated yearly total.

It can be assumed that the average number of contact hours is 2 hours per week. If most programs operate over 42 weeks in a calendar year, the total number of contact hours provided by these volunteers in a given year is 131,376 hours!



If all of this valuable volunteer work was paid employment at a rate of \$15.00 per hour - the cost would be a staggering \$1.97 million dollars!

A copy of this report is available from the Literacy B.C. office.



NEWS FROM LITERACY B.C.

AN INVITATION TO LITERACY PROGRAMS USING VOLUNTEERS.....

Applications for Regional Training Workshops are now available.

Call the Literacy B.C. office at 687-5077 or fax 687-5076.

WORKSHOP TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

1. Adult Learning Principles
2. Volunteer Tutor Program Planning and Evaluation
3. Working With and Coordination of Volunteers
4. Language Acquisition, Reading, Writing Techniques and Math
5. Working with Adult Learners
6. Specific Needs, Specific Settings

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS WILL BE
MAY 15, 1992.

Who We are

Literacy BC, founded in March 1990, is a coalition of people and groups concerned with promoting literacy in B.C.

Our mission is to promote literacy, to support literacy learners, to develop community partnerships and to present a united voice on literacy. We are supported by the Ministry of Multiculturalism & Citizenship, National Literacy Secretariat, and by donations.

Literacy BC welcomes your news and comments by phone, mail or fax, # 687-5076.

We do reserve the right to edit all submissions. This newsletter will be published bi-monthly.

WONDERFUL

WORMSWORTH



During the 1991 Christmas season, Overwaitea/Save-on Foods stores across B.C. sold WORMSWORTH dolls and donated \$1.00 from each sale to Literacy B.C.

**\$2,174.00
was raised!**

A very special Thank-you to Overwaitea/Save-On Foods for their support.

COST SHARED PROJECTS 1992 ANNOUNCEMENT

From Pat Hodgson, Provincial Literacy Coordinator

The Adult Literacy Cost Shared Projects External Review Committee met on March 19 and 20 to discuss this year's applications. The committee reviewed many excellent and innovative proposals. Announcements regarding funding will be made as soon as possible.

It is the intention of the National Literacy Secretariat, the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology and the External Review Committee to ensure that the needs of women, aboriginal groups and people with disabilities are met. There were several interesting proposals for aboriginal learners and for people with disabilities; however, there were no applications specifically addressing the literacy needs of women.

For this reason, the Committee has recommended that we extend until May 4, 1992, the application deadline for proposals which focus on women and literacy. Proposals should be submitted on the 1992-1993 application forms and should follow the current guidelines. Application forms are available from the office of the Provincial Literacy Coordinator (phone 387-6189).

I look forward to receiving your proposals.

BULLETIN BOARD

Ellen's Story

A film that looks at one woman's lifelong struggle with low literacy skills and her eventual triumph will air on UTV in Vancouver and Victoria on April 28th at 9 P.M.

Anyone interested in renting this film, can do so through the National Film Board at 666-3838. Cost is \$2.00/day.

**LITERACY B.C.
HAS A NEW FAX NUMBER!**

687-5076

APRIL 26 - MAY 2, 1992
is Volunteer Recognition Week.

Please take a few minutes to think of a way that you can thank your volunteers for their valuable contribution.

